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Message Text

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21
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 EUR-25 SCA-01 JUSE-00 SEC-03 CU-04

DRC-01 /130 W
---------- 073649
R 032300Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6678

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1304

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS
SUBJECT: SAN JOSE STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST VESCO AND LAW

REF: SAN JOSE 1285

1. AROUND 4 P.M., APRIL 2, BETWEEN 2,000 AND 2,500 STUDENTS, MOSTLY HIGH SCHOOL AGE BUT INCLUDING LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS, PROTESTED IN FRONT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AGAINST VESCO'S PRESENCE IN COSTA RICA AND THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW EXTRADITION LAW. THE STUDENTS MARCHED FROM THE ASSEMBLY TO DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE WHERE THEY CHANTED ANTI-VESCO SLOGANS AND OBSTRUCTED TRAFFIC FOR 45 MINUTES. AFTER THE DOWNTOWN DEMONSTRATION, A SMALLER GROUP OF STUDENTS, COMPRISED LARGELY OF SOCIALIST (PPC) AND COMMUNIST (PVP) AFFILIATES RETURNED TO THE ASSEMBLY. THEY BROKE SOME WINDOWS IN THE ASSEMBLY BUILDING WITH STONES AND ROUGHED UP A DEPUTY-ELECT WHO TRIED TO ADDRESS THEM ON THE VESCO ISSUE. THE GROUP WAS FINALLY BROKEN UP WITH TEAR GAS.

2. FLYSHEETS WERE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE STUDENTS DURING THE MARCH CALLING, BY NAME, FOR EMBASSY OFFICER PETER JOHNSON'S EXPULSION FROM COSTA RICA. ONE FLYSHEET WAS PARTICULARLY REVEALING AS IT WELCOMED INVESTORS IN COSTA RICAN
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DEVELOPMENT WHILE CHARGING PETER JOHNSON WITH BEING AN OBSTACLE.

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3. AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE NO PLANS KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY FOR FURTHER MANIFESTATIONS, AND PRESS ATTENTION APPEARS TO BE WANING.
LANE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: EXTRADITION, INTERNATIONAL LAW, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, BUILDING DAMAGE
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 03 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINS, CS, (VESCO, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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